

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING HILEX POLY COMPANY, LLC

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I stand before the House today to congratulate the Garland, Texas branch of Hilex Poly Company, LLC on the occasion of its tenth anniversary.

Hilex Poly, the world's largest manufacturer of plastic bags, boasts ten manufacturing plants in eight states, including three in North Texas. The company's Texas facilities employ 235 full-time associates and produce everything from yellow caution tape for first responders to plastic wrap for Dallas Morning News deliveries.

Founded as Sonoco Products Company in 1980, Hilex Poly has expanded from a small producer of the grocery sack-style "t-shirt" bag to an innovative leader in its field. A Hilex product can be found in nearly every household and business in the country, whether it's the GLAD Press'n Seal wrap keeping your leftovers fresh or the umbrella bag at the entrance to your office building.

The inventive and environmentally-conscious company not only produces more plastic bags and films than any other firm worldwide, but also leads its industry in recycling. Through its "Bag 2 Bag" and "Grey is the new Green" programs, Hilex has created a new standard for the reuse of grocery sacks and other plastic bags.

Leading by example, Hilex has influenced other plastic manufacturers to produce more grey, high recycled-content bags and lends its own state of the art recycling plant toward the achievement of that goal. The company's eco-friendly measures have also earned recognition through the United States Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program.

For its standard of excellence in business, creation of ecological solutions, and ten years of top-notch production in the Third Congressional District of Texas, it is my pleasure to congratulate Hilex Poly Company, LLC. I salute you!

HONORING SUSAN JONES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susan Jones, who is retiring after serving 31 years in California law enforcement, the last 8 of which have been as the Chief of the Healdsburg Police Department.

Chief Jones has always been a trail blazer. She was one of the first sworn female police officers in the State, serving first as a Deputy Sheriff in Kern County upon her discharge from the United States Air Force. She was with the Concord Police Department for 17 years, achieving the rank of Lieutenant and serving as district commander. From there she assumed the chief's position in Healdsburg, at that time only the fifth woman in the State to become a police chief and the first female police chief in Sonoma County.

Chief Jones brought community-oriented policing and a problem-solving philosophy to Healdsburg. She adopted a geographic based team policing policy that greatly reduced crime in problem areas in the city.

She helped diversify the force by hiring more women and minorities so that the department more closely reflected the community.

During her tenure, she also developed a downtown foot patrol, school resource officers, an after school program and the police K9 program.

As a result of her programs, crime was reduced from 12 to 20 percent in all categories in Healdsburg.

She has served on the board of directors for the California Police Chiefs' Association for the past 5 years, where she co-chaired the Women Leaders in Law Enforcement Committee and chaired the Pension Reform Committee and the Small Agency Committee. She has also served variously as president, vice president, and treasurer of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association during the 8 years she has lived in Sonoma County.

She and her partner, Toni Lisoni, intend to remain in Healdsburg, where she will continue to be involved in the community. She is now president-elect of the Sunrise Rotary Club and will continue to play saxophone in the Healdsburg Community Band.

Madam Speaker, Chief Jones has served her country in the United States Air Force and various communities throughout California in her long and distinguished career in law enforcement. It is appropriate that we commend her for her many years of public service and wish her well on her retirement.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM FLEWELLEN HEARD

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 2010

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special Mississippian. William Flewellen Heard of Tupelo, Mississippi, is an accomplished artist who has overcome adversity and has become an inspiration to many.

William graduated from Tupelo High School in 1994. After high school, he began basic training in the Army National Guard as a Medical Specialist. In 1996, he enrolled at Mississippi State University majoring in Business and Furniture Productions.

On March 14, 2000, William was involved in a car accident that left him quadriplegic. During his rehabilitation William found a love for art. Through his art and disability William has been able to inspire others who have suffered similar injuries.

Today, William teaches an art class for people with spinal cord injuries and traumatic brain injuries sponsored by the Spinal Cord Trust Fund of Mississippi. He is a state board member for a nonprofit organization, LIFE of Mississippi. He is also a member of the Northeast Mississippi Art Association and tours church youth groups and elementary schools talking about his disability and art.

In 2005, William won "Best in Show" at a juried exhibit at the Gumtree Museum of Art in Tupelo. In 2007, William won third place at the Gumtree Art Festival with over 100 artist's participation.

I applaud William's achievements and I hope he will continue to guide others and represent Mississippi's First District. I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing William Heard for his extraordinary efforts and service spent mentoring young people in Mississippi.

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